GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3910
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2008
TARIFF FOR MOBILE PHONE SERVICE PROVIDERS
Ajaya Kumar Shri S.

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has asked to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to fix the minimum tariff for mobile phone service providers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is exploring the possibility of enhancing the capacity of spectrum; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) No, Sir. The power to regulate Telecom Tariff in the country has been mandated to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).TRAI has put the tariffs for mobile services (except for roaming charges, for which there are certain ceilings) under forbearance. Thus, the mobile service providers are free to offer a variety of tariff packages to subscribers, as per the prevailing market conditions, customer needs and TRAI guidelines.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) & (d) The Radio frequency spectrum is a natural, limited and scare resource.The Government has been advising the mobile operators to use spectrum optimally and efficiently by deploying latest technological developments/solutions.